

NEWS SUMMARY.

Local Affairs. Mayor Fox, Chief Mulholland, and the Police Committee of Councils made an official visit yesterday afternoon to the station houses of the Thirtieth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Police districts.

The House Committee. The Speaker announced the following as the Committee on Elections:—Messrs. Paine, Churchill, Weston, Cessa, Butler of Tennessee, Stevens, Burdett, Barr, and Randall. He also stated that the remainder of the committees would be announced on Monday.

The Public Credit Bill. The House, by a vote of 86 to 46, has passed Mr. Schenck's bill to strengthen the public credit. It was amended by striking out the second section.

The Hanging Question—The Other Side. In the article headed "Mawkish Sensibility for Murderers," in your issue of yesterday, you ask, "Do either the records of the case or the statement of your authoritative Executive clemency?"

Domestic Affairs. Gold closed yesterday at 131. G. H. Grant, brother of the President, is in New York.

A grand Fenian demonstration took place in Buffalo last night.

Ex-Governor Pollock, it is said, has been tendered the Directorship of the Mint.

A despatch from Key West says that Dr. Murdoch arrived there on Friday morning.

Senator Worthington will be pressed for Surveyor of the Port of Philadelphia by Senators Cameron and Scott.

A man named George Heildick was shot and killed by a police officer in a disreputable house in Nashville, yesterday morning.

Charles Wallace, editor of the Warrenton (Oregon) Chopper, was shot and instantly killed yesterday morning by Dr. C. W. Dard.

The settlement about the White Pine mines remains unsettled in San Francisco. Fifty companies have been organized in that city since March 1.

Four revenue officers were arrested yesterday in New York, on a charge of illegally removing whisky from a distillery in the city. They were each held to bail in \$5000 for trial.

An American built brigantine, water logged and completely wrecked, was found in the mail channel of the 23d lat. in latitude 40 45, longitude 18 22, with two men, one white and one black, both dead, lashed to the mainmast.

Senator Merion, of Indiana, has accepted the invitation to deliver the oration on the occasion of the Gettysburg Monument dedication, July 4. Bayard Taylor will read a poem and Henry Ward Beecher will act as chaconier.

Vict President Colfax does not expect to be absent during the remainder of the session, but after accompanying Mrs. Colfax to Ohio, next week, he will return and preside over the Senate until its adjournment.

N. T. Forbes has been appointed Pension Agent in this city, by the War Department. This will be good news to hundreds of pensioners, who have been waiting for over a week for the money due them by the Government.

Foreign Affairs. LONDON, March 12.—In the House of Commons, this evening, Hon. Robert Lowe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, stated that if the mail contract with the Inman Steamship Company was sanctioned, the steamers of that line would sail from Queensdown every Friday, for New York, instead of Thursday, as heretofore.

Mr. Seely moved for a committee on mail contracts to the United States.

The Marquis of Hartington, Postmaster-General, said the contract was completed by the latter Government, and to break it would be a breach of faith. He added that the present service was satisfactory.

Mr. Lowe spoke against and Mr. Hunt in support of the contract. The House divided, and the motion was adopted by the following vote:—For a committee, 15; against, 80.

MADRID, March 12.—The Constituent Cortes has rejected the bill providing for the abolition of the capitation tax and military conscription.

VIENNA, March 12.—Both houses of the Reichsrath have passed the Ministerial Budget. It shows a deficiency of 3,000,000 florins in the revenue to meet the estimated expenditures.

HAVANA, March 12.—The Diario praises the inaugural message of President Grant. Legislation and business circles on the island are increasing. Valliant Brothers, Schmidt & Co., Desjardins & Co., and many retail merchants in Santiago de Cuba have failed. The rebel General Juan Lopez was taken prisoner at a point on the 9th inst. at Gen Guero. The Diario reports the capture of several rebel advance guards in the neighborhood of Gibara, and states that they were immediately despatched with knives by the rebels.

HAVANA, March 12.—The United States steamer Contocook, flagship of Admiral Hoff, leaves this port to-morrow for Key West, but will return in a few days. The United States squadron in the West Indies is insignificant in point of numbers, compared with the English and French fleets.

The American residents here characterize it as ridiculous, and talk of it as an insult to the mercantile interests of the country, while they deride the alleged parsimony or ignorance of the American Government in keeping so small a fleet in Cuban waters during the present condition of affairs on the island.

The Gaceta of to-day publishes an official notification that the families of persons to be transported to Fernando Po, next Monday, may furnish them with means to supply their necessities during their imprisonment.

Advices from Saragossa state that the fighting between the troops and insurgents is lively in that jurisdiction.

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Contested Election Case. Examiners Messick and Battum met yesterday afternoon to resume the municipal contested election case. The box of the Sixteenth division of the Twentieth ward was produced by the Mayor and Recorder, the papers taken out and submitted in evidence.

Mr. Gerhard objected to the opening of the box for the reason that there is no specification in regard to that division.

J. Alexander Simpson testified that he was before the Legislative Committee in the judicial contest when the ballot-box of the Sixteenth division, Twentieth ward, was opened, and the ballots counted. The vote was—For Thayer, 283; for Greenbank, 276. The tickets were nearly all in bundles, and some of the bundles contained only seven of Greenbank's tickets, and were made up of three of Thayer's.

Mr. Gerhard objected to the whole of the testimony.

Witnesses were asked how they knew the bundles of tickets were not Thayer's made up of Greenbank's, and he replied that in all instances the Greenbank tickets were in the majority.

David P. Foley testified that he was a return inspector at the Octob 7 election in the Sixteenth division, Twentieth ward, from noon to the close of the day.

He observed, in the first bundle of ten tickets counted by the Democratic return inspector, some Republican tickets in it, and spoke of it; the right of the witness to introduce was questioned, but the judge decided that he had the right; the bundle was then counted, and some tickets, the votes were then separated; after that he discovered to attempt to repeat it; when the witness entered the poll there was a general complaint of the manner in which the election was being conducted, the witness said he had none in as return inspector, because the other inspector was sick, as he said, though witness believed it was something else than sickness.

The certified copy of the return of the election in the above precinct in October was out in evidence, and showed as follows:—For Daniel M. Fox, 310 votes; for Hector Thayer, 249 votes; for Democrat, 250; for Republican, 260; Republican majority, 40; both districts, 260; Republican majority, 40; both districts, 260.

ference by a comparison of the votes at both elections, 100.

William P. Patterson and William E. May testified to having seen the Republican ticket in the Eighth division of the Fourth ward.

William A. Bunkley and James Tenner, residents of the Sixteenth division, Twentieth ward, testified that their belief was that the votes had not been fairly counted at the October election.

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our turn must unquestionably come. When is it to be? When shall we and our daily contemporaries be compelled to add to our expenses by maintaining a staff of artists and engravers? The state of health of the Emperor of the French or the Pope will have to be represented by a carte de visite taken—or supposed to be taken—a few days previously. The "Latest Intelligence" will have to be pictorially rendered, with variety of costume, and our own correspondents will have to send pen-and-ink sketches from distant capitals taken on the spot. The Police Court will provide us an infinity of interesting subjects, and even the money article may sometimes necessitate a tableau of disappointed speculators. To be perfectly serious, however, do not our readers think that this rage for "picture books" has gone far enough? Is it really a wholesome sign? Is it not rather one of frivolity and superficial habits of mind?

PHILADELPHIA, January 18, 1869. Messrs. FARREL, HERRING & CO., No. 629 Chesnut Street.

Gentlemen:—On the night of the 13th inst., as is well known to the citizens of Philadelphia, our large and extensive store and valuable stock of merchandise, No. 629 Chesnut Street was burned.

The fire was one of the most extensive and destructive that has visited our city for many years, the heat being so intense that even the marble cornice was almost obliterated.

We had, as you are aware, two of your valuable and well-known CHAMPION FIRE-PROOF SAFES, and nobly have they vindicated your well-known reputation as manufacturers of FIRE-PROOF SAFES, if any further proof had been required.

They were subjected to the most intense heat, and it affords us much pleasure to inform you that after recovering them from the ruins, we found upon examination that our books, papers, and other valuables were all in perfect condition.

Yours, very respectfully, JAS. E. CALDWELL & CO.

THE ONLY SAFES EXPOSED TO THE FIRE IN CALDWELL'S STORE WHERE FARREL, HERRING & CO.

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Gentlemen:—On the night of the 13th inst. our large store, S. W. corner of Ninth and Chesnut streets, was, together with our heavy stock of wall papers, entirely destroyed by fire.

We had one of your PATENT CHAMPION FIRE-PROOF SAFES, which contained our principal books and papers, and although it was exposed to the most intense heat for over 60 hours, we are happy to say it proved itself worthy of our recommendation. Our books and papers were all preserved. We cheerfully tender our testimonial to the many already published, in giving the HERRING SAFE the credit and confidence it justly merits.

Yours, very respectfully, HOWELL & BROTHERS.

STILL ANOTHER. PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 19, 1869. Messrs. FARREL, HERRING & CO., No. 629 Chesnut Street.

Gentlemen:—I had one of your make of safes in the basement of J. E. Caldwell & Co.'s store at the time of the great fire on the night of the 13th inst. It was removed from the ruins to-day, and on opening it I found all my books, papers, green-backs, watches, and water manometers, etc., all preserved. I feel glad that I had one of your truly valuable safes, and shall want another of your make when I get located.

Yours, very respectfully, F. L. KIRKPATRICK, with J. E. Caldwell & Co., No. 619 Chestnut Street.

MEMORANDA. Barque George H. Jenkins Durkee, for Philadelphia, entered out at Newcastle 23d inst.

Barque Death, Gilley, sailed from Hamburg 19th inst. for Newport.

Barque Genoa, at New York, reports: 13th inst. 50, saw a brig with an American ensign under way; bore down on her, and she proved to be the brig M. C. Green, bound for Messina for Philadelphia, short of provisions and medicines, with captain Sick; supplied her with both; the captain was convalescent as the time we fell in with her.

Sergeant Trovatore, Blanchard, from Messina, at Boston yesterday.

Brig Cairo, cleared at New York yesterday for Antwerp, via Philadelphia.

Brig E. J. Erickson, bound for Philadelphia, cleared at New York 11th inst.

Sch'r A. C. Biddle, bound for North Carolina for Philadelphia, at Norfolk 10th inst.

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Sch'r Joseph Kay, Hathaway, from Wareham 10th inst.

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